

From: **Kristel Wickham**

Date: Mon, Oct 11, 2021 at 11:13 PM

Subject: Support for visualization CD17 COI 1004 767437 (Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Fremont, and others)

To: <[votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov](mailto:votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov)>

California Citizens Redistricting Commissioners, (via email to: [votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov](mailto:votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov))

My name is Kristel Wickham, I have lived in the city of Sunnyvale for over 23 years. I currently serve as Chair of the city's Sustainability Commission but I am writing to you on my own behalf as an individual. I support the visualization labeled CD17 COI 1004 767437 (with the Cities of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Fremont, and other cities shown) from the October 5<sup>th</sup> redistricting meeting.<sup>[1]</sup> <sup>[2]</sup>

I respectfully urge the Commission to design a district which groups cities together that have similar climate change risks. Over the next ten years climate mitigation and adaptation will be significant areas of increasing government responsibility. The cities and communities of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Alviso, Fremont, Newark and Mountain View all have connections to the Bay and all face climate risks of sea level rise, riverine and tidal flooding, extreme heat events, and drought. These cities are served by water treatment plants near the Bay and significant roads and highway infrastructure that are vulnerable to flooding and inundation. Adaptation to these impacts will benefit from a multi-city regional approach and as such these communities will benefit from being in the same congressional district. There are multiple considerations and options for cities including "... hard engineering projects like sea walls, surge barriers, water pumps and overflow chambers to keep water out. Second.. environmental approaches involving land recovery and the restoration of ... wetlands to help cities cope with floodwater inundation. The third strategy involves people-oriented measures including urban design, building resilience and retreating after all other options have been exhausted..."<sup>[3]</sup> All of these efforts would be better undertaken in coordination and with a regional approach by cities in the same district.

The cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Mountain View, Santa Clara, and Fremont are technology job centers which are challenged by a shortage of affordable housing, a diffuse transit system, and traffic congestion. In contrast, "San Jose has traditionally had more housing than jobs, with the imbalance causing the city to lose residents during the day to job centers like Mountain View and Cupertino. The imbalance makes San Jose a "bedroom community," officials say, and causes a loss of potential revenue."<sup>[4]</sup> Therefore, cities which share similar challenges such as Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Santa Clara, and Fremont might best to be in the same district so that those challenges can be resolved regionally.

Thank you for your service to our community in making these redistricting decisions. Independent redistricting plays a major role in governance of this region, our state and nation.

Sincerely,

Kristel Wickham

Sunnyvale resident

Sunnyvale Sustainability Commission Chair\*

Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter Climate Action Leadership Team co-lead\*

\*titles for reference only and do not represent endorsement by that organization

[1] October 5, 2021 Redistricting Meeting, Time Tag 2:35:33 / 6:33:32 [https://download.videosscc.com/CRC/100521/CRC\\_100521.mp4](https://download.videosscc.com/CRC/100521/CRC_100521.mp4)

[2] “Visualizations: Mid and Southern Coastline.” *2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission*, page 33, [https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/ccrc/pages/343/attachments/original/1633361808/Coastal\\_Visualization\\_Slides\\_1004\\_%281%29.pdf?1633361808](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/ccrc/pages/343/attachments/original/1633361808/Coastal_Visualization_Slides_1004_%281%29.pdf?1633361808).

[3] Coastal Cities are Going Under: Here is How Some are Fighting Back  
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/01/the-world-s-coastal-cities-are-going-under-here-is-how-some-are-fighting-back/>

[4] Sonya Herrera. “Google Project Won't Improve San Jose's Jobs-Housing Imbalance Much, Officials Say.” *San José Spotlight*, 24 Dec. 2020, <https://sanjosespotlight.com/google-project-wont-improve-san-joses-jobs-housing-imbalance-officials-say/>.